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23 NOV 1977

OGC77-7499

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

OLC #77-5/58

VIA:

Acting Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM:

William W. Wells

Deputy Director for Operations

77-1002/2 Conquest

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SUBJECT:

Unauthorized Leak of DCI's Testimony Before the House Subcommittee on

Europe and the Middle East, Committee

on International Relations, 12 October 1977

- 1. In your letter of 3 November 1977 to Congressman Lee H. Hamilton, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East, the latter was advised that clandestine information has been acquired which would indicate that there may have been an unauthorized leak of portions of the information you shared with the Subcommittee on 12 October 1977. Congressman Hamilton subsequently advised you that he wishes to take some action on this matter and has asked for your guidance.
- 2. We are pleased that Congressman Hamilton shares your concern for this possible leak. We do not believe, however, that CIA should become involved in any investigation conducted by the Subcommittee to determine the source of this leak. We believe that the Agency has discharged its duty to the Congress in calling attention to this possible leak and that any subsequent action by Congressman Hamilton should be his determination without recourse to the Agency.
- 3. We recommend that you suggest to Congressman Hamilton that appropriate safeguards be instituted to prevent future leaks including an investigation of the Subcommittee staff. At a minimum, Congressman Hamilton may wish to give a security briefing to the staff and other members of the Subcommittee. Our only note of caution should be that he not divulge the specific details of the leak itself in that we would not wish

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4. We suggest that you confirm your concern expressed in your letter to Congressman Hamilton that your desire to be candid in your briefings of the Subcommittee requires that sensitive information not be divulged to unauthorized persons.

William W. Wells

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CONCURRENCE:

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11/23/77 Date

11/25/77 Date

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(23 November 1977)

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Washington, D. C. 20505

Honorable Lee H. Hamilton, Chairman Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East Committee on International Relations House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

3 NOV 1977

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On 12 October 1977 I had the pleasure of testifying before your Subcommittee on the situation in the session and I attempted to be as forthright as possible with you and your Subcommittee. I firmly believe that being complete and forthright in these meetings is essential if we are going to provide the kind of support which committees in the field of international relations require.

I do want to let you know, however, that we have since then received a report through intelligence channels which would seem to indicate that there may have been an unauthorized leak of some of the information which I shared with your Subcommittee. I am enclosing a precis of that report. An interesting aspect of this report is that it appears that at the point we went into executive session and excluded from the room everyone except members of the Subcommittee and a few staff members who had codeword clearances, the person who passed this information to unauthorized sources lost track of the situation.

I recognize that there are a number of surmises which I am making from this report; at the same time, they appear to be reasonable surmises to me and I feel it is essential that we do everything within our power to close off any leaks which may exist. Unless you and I can both be confident that the sharing of sensitive information between the Intelligence Community and your Subcommittee will not lead to its compromise, I'm sure that neither one of us will be comfortable. I would most appreciate your reviewing the enclosed report and sharing your views on it with me. :

Again, thanks for the courtesies of your Subcommittee and the pleasure of working with you.

urs sincere

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Enclosure

STANSFIELD TURNER

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Remarks:

For your review before being typed in final.

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DRAFT

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Again, thanks for the courtesies of your Subcommittee and the pleasure of working with it.

Yours sincerely,

STANSFIELD TURNER

Enclosure

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